SVRS NEWS
NEW JERSEY STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM

WE'RE ROLLING!...

After many months of work and planning, Mercer County, Essex County and Ocean County achieved SVRS "Go Live" on Monday, October 24th. Our pilots are off and running!

Knowing that there were still some unresolved issues with our ElectioNet application, I made the difficult decision to get into live production to allow the process to begin working and take a giant step toward full system implementation. As you know, I worked to roll out to the counties a system in as nearly perfect shape as possible. By the week of the 24th, it was time to get going and Go Live, and we did. Not perfectly, but it was a very good start.

County election officials and their staffs in the three pilot counties are now partnering with the state team and our various contractors to find and fix any and all remaining problems with the SVRS. We put strong support teams into each of the counties and they have been "boots on the ground" for several days to assist during the start-up and learning period. The support team members are not just collecting information, they are also resolving system issues through Covansys and their sub-contractors every day, and the SVRS is quickly evolving into what we all need it to be.

As you know, three other counties, Middlesex, Union and Gloucester, were also originally chosen to be pilots, and they, too, did a tremendous amount of work to prepare for an early Go Live date. Due to the significant and unforseen programming delays we encountered in getting the system ready to go, the tough choice had to be made to return those counties to the regular implementation schedule that will begin at the end of November. I have personally expressed my regret and my deepest thanks to those three counties' election officials and their staffers, who contributed so much to the process.

Because election time is here, with the heavy workload that it requires, I am particularly gratified that the pilot counties have been so willing to meet the challenges of installing and beginning to work with the new system. In doing so, the pilots are contributing time and effort that will eventually benefit every county in the state. Believe me, nobody is being shy about bringing to my attention questions and concerns that need addressing. In short, it's not easy, and the pilots are performing very, very well on behalf of everyone involved in this project.

Thanks to them, the SVRS will be coming to your location soon! Once it is fully operational, we believe that New Jersey's voter registration and election data management system will be the model for the rest of the country. We're eager to get it into all counties as rapidly as possible.

-- Mike Gallagher (HAVA Project Manager**)**

SVRS NEWS
STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM

Special credit goes to three great staffers in the Pilot Counties who are working long and hard with their respective election officials, other staff members and the state "Go Live" support team to get the SVRS operational. We appreciate their great work, leadership and positive spirit!

Nilda Frulio - Ocean County Board of Elections

Gianine Narvaez - Essex County Superintendent's Office

Kathy Herrick - Mercer County Superintendent's Office

What's Happening With …

… Hardware, Software and Environment?

➤ Hardware installations across the State are now complete, with the only exceptions being: the equipment in Hunterdon County (to be installed mid-November); and three T1 communications lines (Camden, Cumberland, Sussex) which are in various stages of installation and testing. By the numbers, here's what was installed across the State:

- 654 Workstations
- 128 Scanners
- 176 Printers
- 23 T1 Lines
- 60 Servers

…Conversion?

➤ The interim/second data pull cycle continued during October, according to schedule, and is nearly complete. Almost all counties have now completed their data clean-up activities from their Pull 2 Data Exception Reports.

➤ An additional Final Pull was performed for the 3 Pilot counties. The data is being converted again and should be available in the Production system on November 14th. This will significantly reduce the amount of data entry required for voters added since the initial Final Pull.
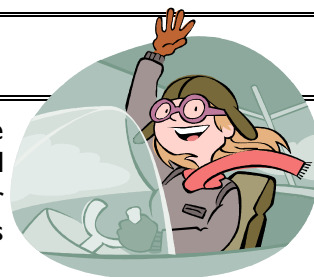
…Training?

➤ Track 1 Training (Basic Computer Skills) concluded on October 14th. A total of 177 employees across the state received the Track 1 Training.

➤ System Administrator training for non-Pilot counties was held October 17th and 18th.

➤ SVRS Training for the Municipal Clerks from Essex, Mercer and Ocean counties was conducted the week of October 24th. The Municipal Clerk training is a 3-hour course, concentrating on only the functions of the application for which they will have access.

➤ Track 2 Training (SVRS Functional System Training) will resume the week of November 14th, for all counties scheduled to Go Live on November 23rd.

… User Acceptance Testing (UAT)?

➤ Retesting of all issues reported during UAT occurred throughout October, bringing the formal scripted testing of UAT to a conclusion. The Pilot implementations extended the UAT efforts into late October and early November.

Pilot Bob and the City of None
Lessons from a Pilot County

"M Jaaaaaaaaaay!!!!!" If you were around my office last week, you heard that phrase a lot. It was me, calling for Mary Jo (M.J. for short) -- my Covansys Go Live on-site support person.
I called for her every time there was a question about the converted data, a potential problem with the system or if I just needed a cup of coffee. (Just kidding about that last one!). We worked with each issue, one by one, notifying the conversion team of issues to be fixed and reporting system problems to the appropriate people.

You've probably already heard that the State has taken another data pull. We have already applied much of what we learned from the first time to prepare for the re-conversion. In fact, we made some changes on our old system prior to taking the new pull so the data would convert with fewer issues. I'd like to share a few of our observations and experiences, so that other counties can take advantage of the Pilot experience thus far.

At the time your final data pull is taken, we recommend running the following reports from your current system, which can be used later for verification of the SVRS data conversion:

➤ Reports that total the number of all voter records by status (active, deleted, pending, etc.).
➤ Reports that total the number of active/inactive voter records by municipality/ward/district and party.
➤ Your current Street File.
➤ Your current list of Polling Locations.
➤ Your current list of Poll Workers.
➤ Any other reports you may feel will aid in comparing your current data to the converted data.

Beginning on the day of your final data pull, keep records of everything that is being entered into your current system, so that when you Go Live, these items can be entered into the SVRS. Your office should develop a form to be completed by your staff when any changes are made in your current system (writing it on a post-it note is not going to cut it).

As to what to expect from the conversion process, and how the data looks, I think the most important thing to be aware of is a little city called "NONE". When the conversion process runs, it assigns the municipality, ward and district (MWD) for a voter based on the converted street information. If there is any conflicting information in your old system for a particular voter record, then the conversion program cannot accurately determine the appropriate MWD, and it assigns that voter record to a municipality named "NONE". While this seems strange at first, it does allow you to easily identify those records by running a report. This allows you to review the records and correct them, to ensure they get assigned to the correct MWD. It is important to note that the records come over from your…

…current system complete but are just not assigned to a MWD in the new system.

"navigating through the system is easier than anticipated"…

After several days of working with the SVRS, we have found that navigating through the system is easier than anticipated as well as finding several features in this system that definitely make things easier to do than in our current system. One example of this is how the street segments are built.

In closing I would say remain calm, stayed organized and request M.J. as your on-site person…………she makes a great cup of coffee.

Good Luck!

Bob Giles
Executive Supervisor, Ocean County Board of Elections

NOTE: The communications team will be distributing a Special Bulletin during the week of November 14th, detailing specific items, based on all 3 Pilot counties' experiences, which counties can use to prepare as much as possible prior to their Final Data Pull and Go Live date.

S T A T U S   U P D A T E

2005   **2006**   **2007**

| Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb |

03/01 – 4/15 Phase 1 – Project Initiation Phase
- ✓ Project Kickoff Meeting - complete 03/09
- ✓ Detailed Project Planning – complete 3/14
- ✓ **ElectioNet** Demo – complete 3/16

03/09 – 6/03 Phase 2 – Business Needs Assessment / Gap Analysis
- ✓ JAD Sessions – complete 4/15
- ✓ Requirements Documents Accepted – complete 6/3
- ✓ Initial site surveys & site visits – complete 5/12

05/03 – 8/19 Phase 3 – Design and Implementation Planning
- ✓ Technical architectures & database design – complete 8/3
- ✓ Pilot and other install schedules - complete 8/3
- ✓ Training surveys and schedules - surveys complete 7/21, schedules complete 7/26 & training locations final 8/12

05/09 – 10/25 Phase 4 – Software Modification and Testing
- ✓ Finalize Implementation Plans – pilot counties CLIPs complete 7/29; remaining counties CLIPs complete 8/3
- ☐ Conduct User Acceptance Training and Testing (8/15 – 10/5) – in progress
- ☐ Customize application – in progress

All Counties Live by 12/19/2005

08/18 – 11/07 Phase 5 – Pilot Implementation
- ✓ Host install of Hardware and Software – complete 10/26
- ☐ Conduct final data conversion – in progress
- ✓ Train pilot users – complete 10/6
- ☐ Validate, correct and eliminate duplicates to converted SVRS data

11/08 – 12/19 Phase 6 – Staged Rollout & Deployment
- ☐ Host install of Hardware and Software – in progress
- ☐ Conduct final data conversion
- ☐ Train users – in progress
- ☐ Validate, correct and eliminate duplicates to converted SVRS data

3/14 – 12/19 Phase 7 – Conversion and Interfaces
- ✓ Identify data needs
- ☐ Test, populate, validate, cleanse and refine data - in progress

10/11 Warranty

10/26 – 2/01 Phase 8 – Project Wrap-up and Transition to Maintenance & Support
- ☐ Accept Technical Documentation
- ☐ Complete Operational Transition to new SVRS

01/01 Maintenance & Support
(through 2007)